

CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SANITARY DISTRICT BASIN A SOUTH AND SURCHARGE FILL AREA SITE



5019 IMHOFF PLACE MARTINEZ, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

*DTSC is one of six
Boards and
Departments within
the California
Environmental
Protection Agency.
The Department's
mission is to restore,
protect and enhance
the environment,
to ensure public health,
environmental
quality and
economic vitality,
by regulating
hazardous waste,
conducting and
overseeing
cleanups, and
developing
and promoting
pollution prevention.*

State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency



INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is distributing this fact sheet to inform the community about the proposed plan to remedy contaminated soil at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District's (the District) Basin A South and Surcharge Fill Area Site (the Site), located at 5019 Imhoff Place in Martinez, California (see figure insert).

A draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) has been prepared which proposes construction of a 12-inch cover of clean imported fill over the Site. Vegetation would be placed over the cover.

DTSC is inviting the public to comment on the draft RAW during the public comment period (see Public Comment Box).

This fact sheet provides information on:

- ***Risk Assessment*** *
- Recommended ***Remedial Alternative***
- Opportunities for public participation

* Terms in ***bold/italic*** are defined in the Glossary.

A draft ***Notice of Exemption*** has been prepared in accordance with the ***California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)***, and is available for review at the information repositories in Appendix D of the draft RAW document.

Public Comment Period

**February 15, 2002 through
March 18, 2002**

DTSC will accept public comments on the draft RAW during the 30-day public comment period.

All comments received by DTSC will be responded to and considered in the selection of the remedy. Copies of the draft RAW and other site related documents are available for public review at the information repositories listed on the back page.

Please send written comments postmarked no later than March 18, 2002 to:

Bill Brown, Project Manager
DTSC
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710-2721

or e-mail:
bbrown@dtsc.ca.gov

SITE BACKGROUND

The Site covers approximately 22 acres of the District's property, and is bounded by vacant and developed commercial and industrial properties on all sides. The closest residences are approximately 2,000 feet from the Site. The closest school is about 1.5 miles from the Site, and the closest hospital is about 2 miles away. DTSC is not aware of any child or senior care facilities nearby.

In 1966, the District received about 5,000 cubic yards of waste material from the Shell Oil Company refinery in Martinez, California. The waste material was deposited and incorporated into various areas of the District's wastewater treatment facility as fill or to stabilize soil. Some of these areas have since been improved with either buildings or parking lots. The Basin A South and Surcharge Fill Area is unimproved and is within the facility's perimeter fence.

The waste material contained *organic sludge*, *lead sulfate*, dirt, *sulfuric acid*, water, tars, and wood debris.

In anticipation of an expansion of facilities, the District began an investigation of the Site in 1987 to determine if any hazards might result from the excavation of the waste material to accommodate the expansion.

The Site is currently zoned for industrial use and any future development will be restricted to industrial use only.

SITE INVESTIGATION

In 1995, the District entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with DTSC. This Agreement included soil and groundwater sampling under the oversight

of DTSC. Substances found in the soil include metals (*lead*, *cadmium* and *chromium*); *petroleum hydrocarbons* quantified as diesel (TPH-d); *benzene*, *toluene*, *ethylbenzene*, and *xylene* (BTEX); *polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons* (PAHs); and oil and grease.

Substances found in the groundwater at or above drinking water standards include lead, chromium and benzene. Lead and chromium have only slightly exceeded drinking water standards. Benzene has only been detected in the middle of the Site. There is no evidence that contamination is migrating off-site. Groundwater is not used as a drinking water source.

RISK ASSESSMENT

A baseline risk assessment was conducted to evaluate the potential for human health risks associated with the chemicals of concern detected in the soil and the groundwater at the Site. The potential health risks calculated in the baseline risk assessment were found to be within the range considered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to be safe and protective of human health based on industrial land use. Since the Site is zoned for industrial use, industrial exposure scenarios were evaluated. The scenarios evaluated were: grass cutter, soil consolidation contractor, and District site worker.

REMOVAL ACTION OBJECTIVES

The hazardous substances detected at the Site do not have an off-site exposure pathway and do not pose a significant threat to off-site public health or the environment. However, there are areas of exposed waste material at the Site. Therefore, the proposed removal action alternatives focus on

preventing contact with exposed waste material on-site.

REMOVAL ACTION ALTERNATIVES

The Draft RAW identifies two removal action alternatives for affected soil at the Site. The two alternatives include:

Alternative 1: No Action

The Site would be left in its existing condition without any additional activities related to the contaminated soil. The ongoing groundwater monitoring program would continue.

Alternative 2: Construct Cover

This alternative would involve the following:

Covering exposed waste material at the Site. The cover would consist of a minimum of one foot of approved cover material. The cover would be sloped to provide drainage, and erosion controls would maintain the integrity of the cover. The soil cover would also be vegetated, with native grass seed, to control erosion and dust. Regular groundwater monitoring would continue, and maintenance of the soil cover would be provided pursuant to an approved Operation and Maintenance Plan.

THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The draft RAW presents the evaluation of these removal action alternatives and DTSC's preferred removal action alternative for the Site. The alternatives were evaluated based on effectiveness, implementability and cost.

Alternative 2 was selected as the preferred alternative because it is protective of human health and the environment and will meet the removal action objective of preventing contact with exposed waste material at the Site.

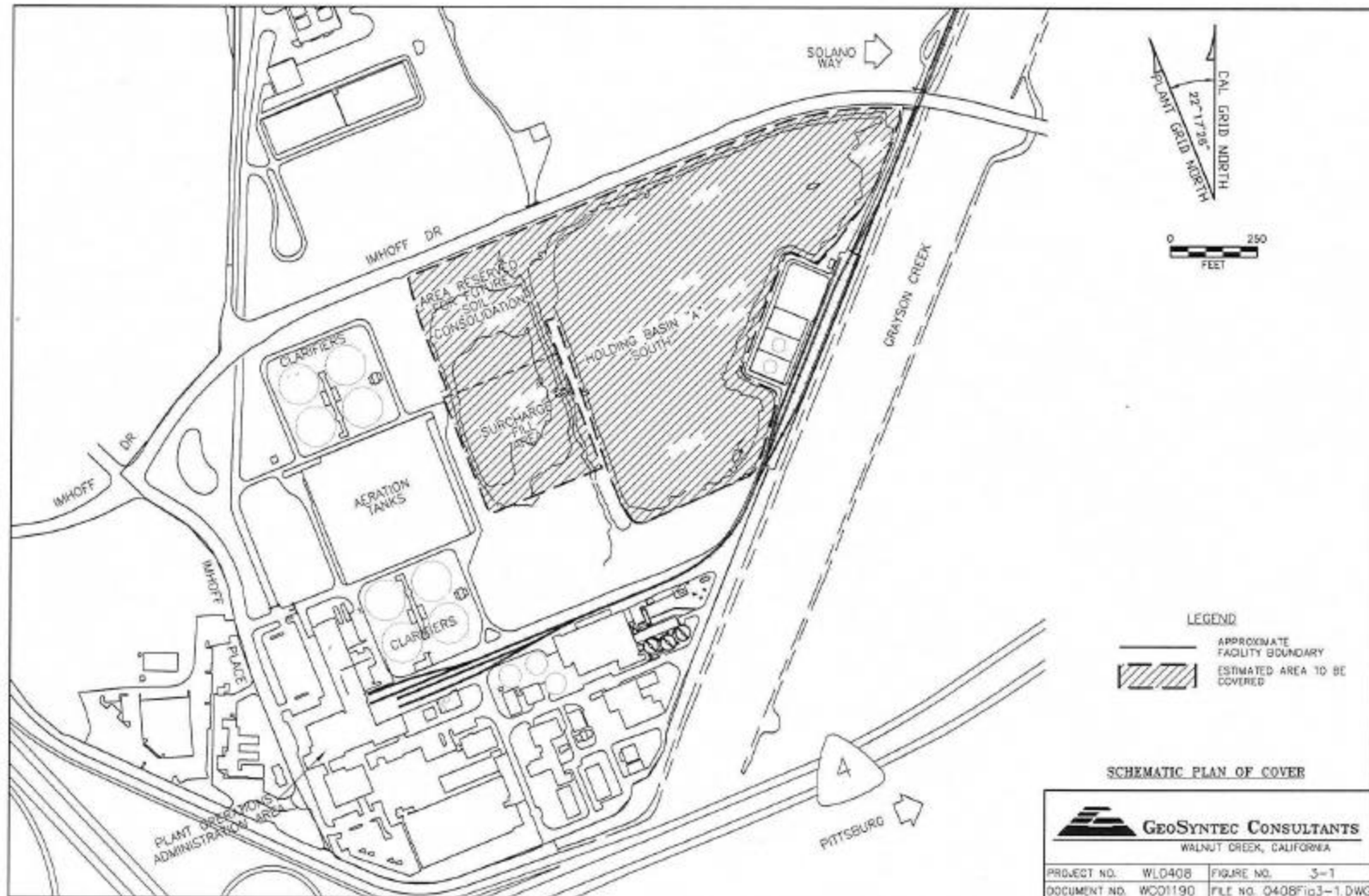
Alternative 2 would include the following activities:

- Approximately 43,000 cubic yards of clean soil would be hauled to the Site for use as cover material, at a rate of about 40 truck loads per day;
- the cover would be graded to minimize ponding and erosion;
- erosion control materials would be installed on some slopes and drainage areas;
- the cover would be vegetated with native grass seed to control erosion and dust;
- a deed restriction, restricting the site to industrial uses, would be completed;
- long term groundwater monitoring would be performed to check for contaminant migration;
- the community will be kept informed by the distribution of work notices regarding the implementation of these activities.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

DTSC has determined that the proposed cleanup plan would have no significant impact on the environment, since only clean soil is being handled and control measures will be used to prevent potential impacts. Therefore, a draft Notice of Exemption has been prepared.

BASIN A SOUTH AND SURCHARGE FILL AREA SITE



Glossary

Benzene

A colorless to light-yellow liquid; an aromatic hydrocarbon; a carcinogen; highly toxic and flammable. It is a solvent and a constituent in gasoline.

Ethylbenzene

A colorless aromatic liquid; toxic by inhalation, ingestion, and skin absorption; irritant to skin and eyes; flammable. Used as a solvent.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

A law mandating environmental impact review of governmental actions in California.

Cadmium

A soft, blue-white, metal or grayish-white powder. Toxic by inhalation of cadmium dust or fume, and ingestion of soluble compounds. A carcinogen.

Chromium

A hard, brittle, semi-gray metal. The hexavalent form is carcinogenic and corrosive on tissue.

Notice of Exemption

A notice that explains why a project would have no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from many of the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Following approval, the notice of exemption is filed with the Office of Planning and Research.

Organic sludge

Sludge containing organic chemicals. Organic chemicals are any chemical compound with a base of the element carbon. Organic chemicals are used throughout farming and industry. Examples of organic compounds are: petroleum hydrocarbons, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Petroleum Hydrocarbons

A thick, dark brown liquid mixture including paraffins and hydrocarbons (organic compounds consisting of carbon and hydrogen), that originated from plant and animal sources 10-20 million years ago.

Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

Aromatic hydrocarbons containing three or more closed rings. Some PAHs are carcinogenic.

Lead

A dull gray metal that is present almost everywhere in the environment. Exposure to lead can cause damage to the nervous system, bone marrow, or developing fetus. Children are especially sensitive to lead exposure.

Lead Sulfate

Noncombustible white crystals, slightly soluble in hot water; a strong irritant to tissue; used in storage batteries and paint pigments.

Remedial Alternative

A method for reducing or eliminating exposure to identified hazardous substances.

Risk Assessment

A study describing the possible adverse health effects that may result from exposure to contaminants. Risk assessments cannot predict health effects; they only describe the increased possibility of adverse health effects, based on the best scientific information available. The risk assessment includes a section describing the uncertainties and assumptions that form part of the basis for the calculations.

Sulfuric Acid

The most widely used industrial chemical; a strong corrosive, dense, oily liquid; colorless to dark brown depending on purity; very reactive; a strong irritant to tissue.

Xylene

A clear liquid; flammable; toxic by ingestion and inhalation.

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842. Jsoto@dtsc.ca.gov

For More Information

For more information about the draft RAW for the Site, please contact Bill Brown, Project Manager, at (510) 540-3841 bbrown@dtsc.ca.gov, or if you have any questions about the public participation process for this Site, please contact Rachelle Maricq, Public Participation Coordinator at (510) 540-3910, or rmaricq@dtsc.ca.gov. For media inquiries contact Angela Blanchette, Public Information Officer at (510)540-3732, or ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov. The Berkeley DTSC office maintains the full Administrative Record for the project. Copies of the draft RAW and other Site related documents are available for public review at the following locations:

California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710-2721
(510) 540-3800
(Call for appointment)

Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
5019 Imhoff Place
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 229-7200
(Call for appointment)

Contra Costa Public Library
Pleasant Hill Branch
1750 Oak Park Blvd.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925-646-6423

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain additional information by using the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach DTSC Public Participation Coordinator, Rachelle Maricq, at (510) 540-3910.

Rachelle Maricq
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, California 94710-2721

Proposed Remediation
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
Basin A & Surcharge Fill Area